

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

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R 172246Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, OCON, ETRD, WTO-1

SUBJECT: WTO FIRST ASSEMBLY

1. WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION (WTO) WILL CONVENE ITS FIRST ASSEMBLY IN MADRID MAY 12-23. INTERGOVERNMENTAL WTO IS SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION TO NON-GOVERNMENTAL INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OFFICIAL TRAVEL ORGANIZATIONS (IUOTO), RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF WHICH TRANSFERRED TO WTO WITH COMING INTO FORCE OF WTO STATUTES NOVEMBER 1, 1974. MADRID ASSEMBLY WILL BE FIRST MEETING OF NEW ORGANIZATION, AND OCCASION FOR TAKING FINAL ACTION ON ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, SCALE OF ASSESSMENT, AND WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR 1976-77 BIENNium.

2. PREPARATORY AD HOC WORKING GROUP OF IUOTO HAS REACHED AGREEMENT ON RECOMMENDATIONS TO FIRST ASSEMBLY ON RULES OF PROCEDURE, FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND SCALE OF ASSESSMENT. PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT ALSO REACHED THAT NO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS ARE TO BE APPROPRIATED UNDER REGULAR (ASSESSED) BUDGET OF WTO. SCALE OF ASSESSMENT RECOMMENDED BY AD HOC WORKING GROUP (QUOTE LUSAKA FORMULA UNQUOTE) ESTABLISHES FIVE PERCENT CEILING AND WOULD REQUIRE ANY MEMBER TO CONTRIBUTE MINIMUM OF 0.05 PERCENT. ACCEPTANCE

BY WTO ASSEMBLY OF (A) KEY PROVISIONS OF LUSAKA FORMULA FOR SCALE OF ASSESSMENT, AND (B) EXCLUSION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM REGULAR BUDGET ESSENTIAL BEFORE US PREPARED TO FORMALIZE ITS MEMBERSHIP IN WTO. REPRESENTATIVES OF ADDRESSEE GOVERNMENTS HAVE TAKEN SIMILAR POSITION IN PREPARATORY MEETINGS.

3. WTO STATUTES PROVIDE UNDER ARTICLE 42 THAT STATES WHOSE NATIONAL TOURISM ORGANIZATIONS WERE MEMBERS OF IUOTO AT THE TIME WTO STATUTES WERE ADOPTED (27 SEPTEMBER 1970) AND WHICH HAVE ADOPTED STATUTES QUOTE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL UNQUOTE (RATIFICATION) MAY PARTICIPATE IN WTO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF FULL MEMBER DURING FIRST YEAR AFTER COMING INTO FORCE OF STATUTES. HOST GOVERNMENTS OF INFO ADDRESSEES ALREADY HAVE AVAILED THEMSELVES OF THIS PROVISION AND ARE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN MADRID ASSEMBLY AS FULL MEMBERS. HOST GOVERNMENTS OF ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE ELIGIBLE TO DO SO.

4. US MADE ITSELF ELIGIBLE APRIL 7 UNDER ARTICLE 42 BY

LETTER FROM US CHARGE GENEVA TO WTO SECRETARY GENERAL ROBERT LONATI WHICH STATED QUOTE I AM AUTHORIZED TO INFORM YOU THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ADOPTS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL THE STATUTES OF THE WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 42 OF THE STATUTES UNQUOTE. US PLANS TO PARTICIPATE IN MADRID ASSEMBLY AND EXERCISE RIGHTS OF FULL MEMBER THERE. DECISION ON WHETHER TO PROCEED WITH FINAL RATIFICATION OF WTO STATUTES, FORMALIZING US MEMBERSHIP, WILL ONLY BE TAKEN IN LIGHT OF ASSEMBLY ACTIONS ON SCALE OF ASSESSMENT, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FUNDING AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL AND BUDGETARY ARRANGEMENTS.

5. US PLANS TO MAKE CLEAR AT MADRID ASSEMBLY THAT CONTINUED US MEMBERSHIP IN WTO WILL TURN ON FAVORABLE DECISIONS BEING TAKEN ON SCALE OF ASSESSMENT AND EXCLUSION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM REGULAR BUDGET. WE WISH TO ESTABLISH LEGISLATIVE HISTORY ON THIS AS CLEARLY AND FIRMLY AS POSSIBLE AT MADRID ASSEMBLY WITH VIEW TO ASSURING-IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT ANY SUBSEQUENT MOVES TO REVISE THESE DECISIONS WOULD CALL INTO QUESTION CONTINUED US MEMBERSHIP IN ORGANIZATION.

6. ALL DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN COOL IN VARYING DEGREES TOWARD TRANSFORMATION OF IUOTO INTO WTO, AND NONE THUS FAR HAVE FORMALLY RATIFIED WTO STATUTES. WE DO NOT EXPECT ANY WILL DO SO UNTIL DECISIONS ON KEY

QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY FIRST ASSEMBLY, AND NUMEROUS CONSULTATIONS AMONG DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (INCLUDING USSR) HAVE PRODUCED SHARED VIEWS ON THESE.

7. ACTION ADDRESSEES. AS WE HAVE AGREED IQ OUR CONSULTA-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TIONS TO KEEP OTHERS INFORMED OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY USG WITH RESPECT TO WTO, ACTION ADDRESSEES REQUESTED TO INFORM APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES IN HOST GOVERNMENTS OF ACTION TAKEN (PARA 4 ABOVE) TO MAKE US ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN FIRST WTO ASSEMBLY UNDER PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 42 OF STATUTES. EMBASSIES SHOULD POINT OUT ADVANTAGE WE SEE IN BEING ABLE TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN FIRST WTO ASSEMBLY, BUT WITHOUT COMMITTING US TO CONTINUE MEMBERSHIP IN NEW ORGANIZATION IF OUTCOME IS UNACCEPTABLE TO US.

8. INFOR ADDRESSEES. REPRESENTATIVES OF MOST INFO ADDRESSEES ARE PARTICIPANTS IN GENEVA CONSULTATIONS WTO FORMATION, AND WILL BE INFORMED OF US ACTION (PARA 4 ABOVE) AT CONSULTATIVE MEETING WHICH DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR MAY 6, BUT INFO ADDRESSEES

MAY AT THEIR DISCRETION BRIEF APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES
IN CAPITALS BEFOREHAND.

9. COPENHAGEN, HELSINKI, LUXEMBOURG, OSLO, STOCKHOLM.
WE HAVE INDICATIONS YOUR HOST GOVERNMENTS MAY ALREADY
HAVE DECIDED NOT TO EXERCISE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 42
OR PARTICIPATE IN WTO FIRST ASSEMBLY.

10. TOKYO. TEXT OF US COMMUNICATION TO WTO (PARA 4
ABOVE) PROVIDED TO JAPANESE EMBASSY HERE AT ITS REQUEST.

11. GENEVA SHOULD BE MADE INFO ADDRESSEE FOR EMBASSY
REPORTS ON REACTIONS RECEIVED AND VIEWS OF HOST GOVERN-
MENTS TOWARDS FIRST WTO ASSEMBLY PROBLEMS. KISSINGER

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